

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 08539 120755Z

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 EB-08 /021 W

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7855

UNCLAS TOKYO 08539

PASS COMMERCE FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY WEIL

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: BEXP, JA, US

SUBJECT: TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE: IKEDA REPEATS
JAPAN FLOATING FAIR OFFER

REFS: (A) USDOC 8881, (B) TOKYO 8105

1. SUMMARY: IKEDA, LEADER OF JAPAN IMPORT PROMOTION MISSION TO U.S., HAS AGAIN REPEATED OFFER OF "WHITE SHIP" FOR U.S. EXHIBITS. END SUMMARY.
2. YOSHIZO IKEDA, HEAD OF MARCH IMPORT PROMOTION MISSION TO U.S., HAS BEEN MAKING SERIES OF REPORTS TO JAPANESE AND AMERICAN AUDIENCES ON THE RESULTS OF HIS MISSION. IN WHAT HE DESCRIBES AS FINAL REPORT, HE APPEARED BEFORE ABOUT 200 MEMBERS OF JAPAN-AMERICA SOCIETY MAY 11 IN UPBEAT REVIEW OF HIS TRIP. ITEMS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO WASHINGTON AGENCIES ARE:
 - (A) RENEWAL OF OFFER TO LEND FLOATING FAIR VESSEL "SHIN SAKURA MARU ("WHITE SHIP") FOR 1979 VISIT TO PRINCIPAL PORTS OF JAPAN;
 - (B) WELCOMING THE PROSPECT OF U.S. RISING TO MEET THE CHALLENGE TO EXPORT MORE, AS EXEMPLIFIED BY FORMATION OF PRESIDENT'S TASK FORCE TO DEVELOP A NATIONAL EXPORT POLICY;
 - (C) EXTENSIVE TRIBUTE TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF

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- COMMERCE WEIL FOR HIS ASSISTANCE TO IKEDA MISSION, ESPECIALLY HIS ATTENTION TO MISSION WHILE THEY WERE GROUNDED AT WASHINGTON AIRPORT AND HIS ADDRESS AT TIME OF MISSION DEPARTURE FROM LOS ANGELES;
- (D) GREETING OF U.S. INTENTION TO SEND FOLLOW-UP MISSION IN OCTOBER.

3. EMBASSY COMMENT: IKEDA'S REPEATED RAISING OF
"WHITE SHIP" OFFER OBVIOUSLY MAKES US MORE EAGER TO
HAVE WASHINGTON DECISION ABOUT HOW TO HANDLE OFFER
AS REQUESTED REF B. HOPE THAT GARNITZ VISIT (REF A)
WILL EXPEDITE SUCH DECISION.
MANSFIELD

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